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*On leave of absence. Member of Eastern Intercollegiate Newspaper Association

In Charge of This Issue: G. F. Ashworth, H. J. Ryan

Wednesday, March 14, 1923

FILLING A REAL NEED

TECHNOLOGY'S athletes have too long competed on greatly unequal terms with their opponents from colleges where facilities of training exceeded those at the Institute. Conditions as to coaching and practice have been immeasurably bettered at the Institute in the past few years but the difficulty of supervision of the athlete's diet remains.

The establishment of a training table is undeniably a big undertaking both financially and in the matter of proper supervision but it is high time that at least a start were made. The offer of Manager Bridges of Walker paves the way for the first advance, a thing to be highly commended and appreciated. Under the plan as evolved the track men will be able to eat two meals a day under the eye of Coach Kanaly. If they hope to battle Harvard and Dartmouth at their best to say nothing of conquering Boston College in the New England Meet it is imperative that every man receives the right kind of nourishment in proper amounts, as only a training table can provide.

But the real item must not be lost sight of. The team men will be paying for their own meals, contrary to the established rule in most colleges. Of course as long as the charge remains reasonable and the food of high standard required this is not as bad as it might be though it may mean a considerable item to men who have to commute from homes in and around Cambridge. The fact is that the present plan is largely in the nature of a test case. If it is unsuccessful it must not be given up but simply changed and tried again. If, however, it is successful it must not be allowed to stand still. The inherent idea is too important if really fair treatment is to be accorded those who give their efforts for Institute teams. Track, the major sport, in a year when Technology seeks to recover threatened laurels in the N. E. I. C. A. A. is a fit subject for a beginning but make it only a beginning. The good work should not stop there.

N. E. I. C. A. A. AT TECH FIELD

TECHNOLOGY made a strong bid to secure the holding of the 1923 N. E. I. C. A. A. track and field championships on Tech Field. The association has accepted the Institute's offer and now the fact comes to light though it was known long ago, that there is no track here fit for an intercollegiate meet. In the words of a man who knows the situation, "The New Englands may be held on the present track but if they are the association will never consider an offer from Technology in the future." Any runner who has trained on the cinder oval knows the truth of that statement.

The track on Tech Field was laid down with the idea of going over it completely again within two years. This has never been done. The real need now is rebuilding from foundation up, resurfacing over the existing bed would not prevent the pools of water which form on it after every rain.

But, of course, there isn't time to carry out such a major operation before the spring season. The advisory council's decision to patch it up as best can be done is the only way out of a difficult situation. If the weather remains dry the week before the intercollegiate everything should go well; if it rains, the runners will need tugboats.

However, there will be plenty of time this summer to attend to the matter properly. . . . Next fall should find a cinder track at Tech Field that will be a credit to any of the Institute's engineers instead of the present wreck. Located as it is, Technology is the logical place for the New England meet, if we get a satisfactory track, we can try to make it the regular home.

THE TECH Volume XLII takes pleasure in announcing the following staff of Volume XLIII:—

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The World's Affairs

Foreign News: March 13. French and Belgian premiers have decided on a policy of progressive withdrawal from the occupied territory.

Assassination of French soldiers in the Ruhr has led to warning that German town officials would be shot in the event of further violence.

March 13. Japan will refuse to leave Port Arthur and Dalny at the expiration of its lease there this year it is reported.

March 13. Turkey has demanded the return of the Island of Castelloriza as a condition of peace. Indignation is felt in both Italy and Greece as a result of the Turkish demand.

The Engineer as an Executive By H. V. Coes '06

It has been customary until recent years to think of the engineer as a man immersed in sines and co-sines, log tables, slide rules or one devoted to the drafting board or the laboratory as the case may be. Probably the majority think of him as a man dealing with the exact sciences with data that is fixed or whose limits are known. Nothing could be further from the truth, however. The modern, broad gauge, engineer, who is a business executive, is just as much at home with balance sheets, production statistics, business economics, industrial relations and the financial problems underlying business as he is with his slide rule, his log table or his transit.

One of the reasons why, and probably the principal reason why, some engineers fail to make good as executives, or to develop into broad gauge, large calibre, executives is due to the fact that they are at a loss in dealing with shifting data or with data whose limits are not exactly known. The executive has to make decisions in many instances based on information that he has at hand—the time at his disposal is greatly limited and he cannot secure all the facts or study the entire situation. It isn't anything that can be settled or worked out by slide rules or by applying the laws of the exact sciences, yet the decision is important and must be made. You ask, "How does the executive arrive at a decision in such instances?"—He has to quickly sort out in his mind all the information that he has at hand, to consult with many of his subordinates and associates, learn to know those who under estimate and those who over estimate, to judge how far the situation has drifted and in what direction since the matter under discussion first came into being and then to make up his mind, in the light of all the information meager as it may be, just what his course of action is going to be.

Now, it is comparatively a simple thing to arrive at conclusions and to make decisions, based on deductions that have been derived from exact data. It is quite another matter, however, to make a decision based on inexact data, data which shifts and whose limits are unknown. The situation that has to be sized up may be political; may be financial; may be psychological; in fact may combine these factors in varying degrees. The percentage of each as a component of the whole, however, is not known. What I am trying to point out to you is that the engineer is called upon to deal with situations particularly if he is an executive, which involve many things other than the exact sciences and while I in no way wish to minimize the importance of the assimilation of the exact sciences, yet the young engineer should give due heed to the importance, not only at college, but in his work subsequent thereto, to other things, such as applied psychology, human nature, business economics, business finance, politics, business law, for they all have a bearing on the problems that he must ultimately solve.

Modern engineering is a fascinating game and the opportunities for the engineer to be of service to the community and to the Country are without limit. One of the great departments at Washington is being administered and reorganized by an engineer—"The Department of Commerce by Mr. Hoover." He is doing a wonderful piece of work. Mr. Hoover is the type of engineering, business executive that has been developed in recent years. A large industrial corporation is headed by an engineer, one of our own graduates, Mr. Swope of the General Electric Company. Business needs the analytical and synthetic ability of the engineer and it is this analytical and synthetic ability applied to shifting data that makes the engineer a good business executive when he learns how to apply analysis and synthesis to shifting data as well as to known or exact data. Learn to know your fellow men; take an active interest in those collegiate affairs that bring you into direct human contact with your class mates. The spirit of competition will broaden and develop; executive experience can be gained in a large number of the college under-graduate activities and you will there learn the elements of salesmanship, for you will find that you will be called upon to sell your proposition, your program, or your ideas to your associates and to your

class-mates. You will find as you get into business life, that selling occupies a large portion of your time. The business executive must sell his policies to his organization just as he must sell his products to his trade, and you will find that if you will take the opportunity at college to develop these latent faculties; to learn how to handle yourself; to meet men as a man, that you will have established a fair preliminary ground work, leading to later successes as an executive and the world certainly needs engineering executives at the present time.

There are many lawyers, dyed in the wool politicians, old fashioned diplomats and others causing trouble throughout the world in the administration of daily affairs and the reason why I am so keen about having the engineer take his rightful place in these matters is that he is fundamentally honest. He cannot afford to be dishonest—if he is dishonest in regard to the data with which he works, calamity ultimately overtakes him, either the bridge will fall down, the building collapse or something else take place. The doctor can bury his mistakes, the lawyer can evade his and place the burden on the jury or the law, but the engineer absolutely has no way of dodging the final issue. If he is wrong, if he makes a mistake, the world and he sooner or later know it and we need in our every day municipal, national and international affairs just this fundamental honesty that the engineer's training instills.

COMMUNICATION

To the Editor of THE TECH: There is no time when clear thinking is more essential than during examination periods. The ability to get quick mental reactions in the presence of problems presented by the Institute examining boards depends on good physical condition, good circulation of blood and plenty of oxygen to purify the blood supply. The so-called "pink of condition" shows in the cheeks of far too few of the students. Too many men show by the condition of their complexions that their circulations are sluggish and that impurities in the blood instead of being burned up by proper oxygenation are left in the blood stream, incorporated in the body and finally erupted through the skin. Proper oxygenation of the blood presupposes plenty of oxygen-deep breathing in the lungs unclogged with a deposit of the difference between what the smoker inhales and what he exhales. Breathing being involuntary, deep breathing is best brought about through exercise. And this brings us to the need and importance of exercise and active circulation at a time when the brain is particularly active and in need of the best blood that can circulate through it. Organized exercise should not be neglected in the exam. period, and this is particularly true in the case of rowing and training for the Tech crews whose season already begins to loom up. Yale, Annapolis, and Syracuse students are not exempt from examinations and are to meet Tech crews this Spring. A Yale freshman crew averaging 173 pounds is already reported in training. A semi-occasional Tech freshman crew averaging 10 to 15 pounds lighter is the Class of 1926's spiritless answer to date. With the possibilities of a training table for the crew squads later on, eligible non-residents need not hesitate to come out and try for a crew and so help to put Tech on the chart. More weight, height, and power are needed. Let's go.

(Signed) STEVENS, Coach

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